

Message Text

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21

ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 H-02 DHA-02 /018 W

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P R 050809Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4682

AMCONSUL UDORN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC (CONWAY, ROSEMARY ANN AND INFANT MAUREEN)

SUBJ: STATUS OF MAUREEN AND ROSEMARY CONWAY

REF: UDORN 406 AND PREVIOUS

1. EMBASSY ON JULY 4 RECEIVED ANOTHER LETTER FROM ROSEMARY CONWAY EVIDENTLY SMUGGLED OUT OF HER PLACE OF DETENTION. LETTER IS COHERENT AND MAKES FOLLOWING MAIN POINTS:

2. BABY: MS. CONWAY IS QUITE ADAMANT THAT HER BABY, MAUREEN, REMAIN WITH MARTIN FAMILY IN UDORN IF THIS DOES NOT IMPOSE UNDUE BURDEN ON THEM. LETTER STATES IN PART: "YOUNG AS MY DAUGHTER IS, I KNOW THAT THERE HAS BEEN SOME IMPACT PSYCHOLOGICALLY (BECAUSE) OF MY ABSENCE. IT IS NOT FAIR TO TAKE HER (MAUREEN) UNNECESSARILY FROM THE SECURITY AND ATTACHMENTS SHE NOW HAS INTO A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT ENVIRONMENT TO READJUST. IT IS NOT IN THE BABY'S BEST INTEREST TO BRING HER TO THE U.S. AT THIS TIME." LETTER CONTINUES THAT, SO LONG AS BABY REMAINS IN UDORN, MS. CONWAY'S ONLY CONCERN IS OVER FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR BABY'S CARE AND FEEDING AT THE MARTINS'. LETTER ADDS THAT SHE HAS WRITTEN HER PARENTS ASKING THEM TO SEND MONEY AND CLOTHING TO MR. MARTIN. THIS PORTION CONCLUDES: "I HOPE THAT THEY HAVE ALREADY DONE THIS BECAUSE I WILL NOT (UNDERLINED) SEND THE BABY TO CHICAGO. PLEASE MAKE THIS CLEAR TO THEM"

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3. OWN HEALTH: MS. CONWAY WRITES THAT SHE IS NOT IN GOOD HEALTH, HAVING HAD HEADACHE AND FEVER FOR 15 DAYS. SHE CLAIMS TO HAVE MANY MOSQUITO BITES AND TO BE SUFFERING FROM LACK OF FOOD. SHE ALSO HAS DIFFICULTY SLEEPING. AT SAME TIME, TONE AND CLARITY OF LETTER SUGGEST SHE MAY BE BEARING UP BETTER THAN WE HAD THOUGHT. SHE REQUESTED THAT VARIOUS FOOD AND PERSONAL ITEMS BE DELIVERED TO HER.

4. STATUS OF CASE: LETTER SAYS VERY LITTLE ABOUT HER CASE. "THEY TOLD ME THERE WOULD BE NO TRIAL -- SPECIAL CASE." SHE ALSO INDICATED THAT SHE IS STILL HELD AT MIXED POLICE DETENTION CENTER NEAR CHANCERY AND THAT SOME OF OTHER PRISONERS THERE ARE CHARGED WITH POLITICAL OFFENSES.

5. WE ARE SENDING COPY OF THIS LETTER TO UDORN BY DEPCHIEF FLIGHT AFTERNOON JULY 5 AND HAVE ASKED VIENTIANE PERSONNEL IN UDORN TO OBTAIN POLAROID PHOTOS OF MAUREEN FOR MS. CONWAY DURING COURSE OF ANOTHER VISIT TO MARTIN FAMILY TO VERIFY BABY'S WELFARE ONCE AGAIN.

6. MEANWHILE, WE ARE PREPARING ANOTHER PACKAGE OF FOODSTUFFS -- INCLUDING ITEMS REQUESTED IN LETTER SUCH AS PEANUT BUTTER AND RAISINS, AS MEANS OF ACKNOWLEDGING RECEIPT OF LETTER -- WHICH WE WILL DELIVER TO FONMIN JULY 7 FOR TRANSMISSION TO MS. CONWAY. WE WILL ALSO SEND A LETTER THAT WILL NOT ACKNOWLEDGE HERS BUT WILL EXPLAIN THAT WE ARE CONTINUING TO SEEK CONSULAR ACCESS.

7. ACTION REQUESTED OF DEPT: PLEASE INFORM MS. CONWAY'S PARENTS IN PHOENIX THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH HER CLEAR REQUEST WE BELIEVE MAUREEN SHOULD REMAIN N UDORN WITH MARTIN FAMILY. WE RECOMMEND THEY AND OTHER RELATIVES AND FRIENDS IN U.S. WRITE TO HER. (HER LETTER STATES THAT RECEIPT OF MAIL FROM SUCH PERSONS WOULD HELP HER MORALE "CONSIDERABLY.") LETTERS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO CONSULAR SECTION, AMERICAN EMBASSY, BOX V, APO SAN FRANCISCO 96346.

CHAPMAN
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Message Attributes

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